

# BUFORA NEWSFILE

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December 1995

## Experts baffled by UFO sightings

MORE tales of the unexplained are doing the rounds in Waltham Forest.

Following reports of ghostly goings-on at The Village pub come claims of UFO sightings.

Painter and decorator Tony Golbourne, of Wigton Road, Walthamstow, says he saw a large orange object hovering in the sky when he looked out of his bedroom window in the middle of last Monday night.

Said Tony: "It looked bigger than a dinner plate if you held it up against the window. I have never seen anything like it."

He said it could not have been the moon as there was a new moon in the sky last week.

"People tend to think you're pulling their leg or you're a raving nutcase if you tell them these things but in all my life I have never seen anything like what I saw the other night."

"I was shocked and a little bit frightened."

This is not the first time Tony has seen unidentified objects floating above Walthamstow.

In the summer he said that he had on several occasions seen a blinding white sphere edging towards him from the north.

However, at that time in July, a meteor shower was passing through the solar system, leaving a trail of white light in its wake.

But Tony is not the only one to have seen strange and unexplained events. Chingford resident Melinda Gooding, of Kingsley Gardens, told the Guardian that she saw a blinding white light in the sky on Sunday evening.

Roy Lake, of the local branch of London UFO Studies, said he was quite concerned at the recent happenings.

"I have a feeling there's something going on, particu-

larly in Walthamstow," he said. "There has been a lot of activity in the skies recently."

A spokesman for the Met Office in London said that it had received no reports of strange sightings.

The police, too, have heard nothing. Inspector Chris Jackson at Chingford told the Guardian: "There's been no talk of it. We would expect to have heard of something like that."

London UFO Studies holds its next meeting on November 24, at the Unity Hall Bramley Close, Walthamstow.

Member Maria Ward, who has already appeared with Esther Rantzen in a TV interview, claims to have been abducted by aliens. She will talk about her experiences at the meeting, which is from 7.30 to 11pm.

Entry costs £4 to non-members and £2 for members and concessions.

## LEYTON-LEYTONSTONE & STRATFORD WALTHAM FOREST GDN

02 NOV 95

## UFO was just a lot of hot air

BAFFLED motorists stopped their cars as a mysterious glowing globe appeared in the night sky above the Moorlands.

The huge white 'blob' - complete with red flashing lights - appeared to drift over the Dilborne, Wetley Rocks and Leek area on Sunday night before disappearing in the distance.

Police received several calls from worried families who feared they

By Phil Edmeades

had seen a UFO. But the mystery glow was actually an advertising airship operated by an electronics company.

The UFO theory was shot down by Sgt Barry Shuttleworth, of Leek police. He said: "I was out walking my dog on Sunday evening when I saw the glow in the sky.

"It had red flashing lights and

from a distance I suppose it did look a bit strange.

"But as it came nearer I could see it was an airship and had the name of a major electronics company written on its side."

Student Lisa Motum, of Stockwell Street, Leek, also saw the glow in the sky.

She said: "It was very strange. I didn't know what it was and I didn't know what to do. I just stared at it in disbelief."

## STAFFORDSHIRE EVENING SENTINEL

07 NOV 95

DO UFOs visit Earth for firework fun?

AS FIREWORKS light up the night sky this week during the celebration of Guy Fawkes' Night, take a careful look beyond the kaleidoscopic twinkles for UFOs. Among the M-Files' many reports of alien craft, there are several sightings of UFOs which have taken place on Bonfire Nights of the past. Sonny Hay, a self-confessed opto-sceptic from Leicester

## LOUGHBOROUGH MAIL

02 NOV 95

reported seeing a ring of orange stars moving left and right across the city centre, during the afternoon of November 5, 1990. And Neil Emerson, from Ashby, told the M-Files of his sighting on Bonfire Night 1984. While looking towards the Miners' Welfare in Moira, he witnessed a red glowing sphere moving across the sky. Let us know if you have any UFO sightings on November 5.

The small town of Bonnybridge located in the centre of Scotland has become the location of numerous UFO sightings and a third of the local population claim to have had extra terrestrial experiences or sightings of aliens. So when it was announced that there was to be a visit - by people from Earth I'm afraid - to discuss this phenomenon there were packed crowds in Falkirk Town Hall and people on the door to keep the rest at bay. The key speaker was one Phyllis Schlemmer who was over from America to discuss the Bonnybridge phenomenon. She said: "It is possible that, in another time, Bonnybridge was visited by astronauts and that some energy fields may have been left behind." She admitted she had been seeing things since the age of five and then went on to describe the Council of Nine who are apparently a group of beings made of light who come from the centre of the universe which is not Bonnybridge it has to be said! She described this as "A very cold place." The nine had a message for the people of Scotland and that was that it was time for the people of earth to make changes. Frighteningly over 900 people attended this

meeting! Have they thought of doing nightclasses?

It was 11pm on Sunday, July 8, 1990. It was pouring with rain and Royce and his wife Heather were returning home after a night out with friends in Malton. We got to near the golf club on Milton Road when my wife shouted: "What the hell's that?" I looked up, wowed, the window down and looked up. I could not believe what I saw. There was a very large, elliptical object, dull orange in colour which was pulsating. It had a definite edge to it. It had a clear shape. It was stationary about 200ft above the ground. It was windy so the clouds were passing over it.

## Fire in the sky

**Just what was the strange object a York artist saw in the sky on the night of the Minster fire? Was it a UFO? SIMON RITCHIE reports**

**Y**esterday morning, Royce Harmer, 55, of Didsbury, Greater Manchester, was awoken by a bright orange glow in the sky. He had been sleeping soundly when he heard a noise outside. He got out of bed and looked out of his window. He saw a large, elliptical object, pulsating, hovering over the city. He took a photograph of it with his camera and showed it to his wife, Heather. She was also amazed by what she saw. They both agreed that it was a UFO.

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## What was it?

BRYAN Marlowe took this amazing photograph of a UFO flying over Acomb, York. He was out walking in a field off Askham Lane with his son Raymond, a former Royal Air Force crew member, when the object came into view.

"It was about 1,500ft high and travelling with a wobbly, revolving motion at about 50mph in a north-westerly direction," said Mr Marlowe, 65, of Otterwood Lane, York.

"The object gave off an incandescent glow and appeared to be constructed of a highly-polished, almost translucent, white metal. It was completely soundless, in flight and did not emit any exhaust or vapor trails..." Mr Marlowe took a second photograph as it

accelerated away to the north-west until it was no longer visible.

He had his camera with him as he wanted to take some pictures of a bull in a field.

The sighting took place at 3.30pm on Monday, August 7. He forgot about the film until he got it developed.

He is now going to send the photographs to Ground Saucer Watch, USA, and the British UFO Research Society.

He added: "My son, who has flown many hundreds of hours as aircrew in RAF transport aircraft, has seen all manner of flying objects, including Iraqi Patriot missiles, and is convinced that the object we saw and photographed, was alien to this planet."

## I've seen a UFO, villager tells police

A WORRIED villager alerted police last night after he spotted a suspected UFO hovering in the skies over Norfolk.

The man telephoned officers at Great Yarmouth claiming he saw the flashing blue and white star-shaped disc above Freethorpe.

He told police the mystery object was in the area for about 30 minutes before it moved off into the night.

PC Martin Petersen said: "He sounded quite genuine according to the officers who spoke to him. We had no other reported sightings in the area."

EASTERN EVENING NEWS  
04 NOV 95

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**A short time later the building caught fire. It generally believed biglinings was to blame.**

**If you have seen a UFO or had a strange and experience then contact Simon Ritchie at The Yorkshire Evening Press on 01964 63651 ext. 347.**

**Van driver Eddie Acaster, of**

**During the night I kept getting**

**Huntington, claimed to have seen up and looking out of the window at night that the Minister fire. I found out about the Minister fire, I read in the Press at the time about a number of people who had seen strange objects in the sky that night and were interviewed at the time. My wife said to say something but I did not want to be labelled a crank.**

**It was only when I read the recent article on UFOs in the Evening Press that I thought I would come forward.**

**We looked again. We thought it might have come down somewhere**

**subject of UFOs until that night."**

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**E**RIC SYKES is 72, stone deaf, virtually blind and is convinced of the existence of UFOs.

"I firmly believe they are observing the Earth, ready to step in to save things so we don't blow the planet away," he said, in a rare interview in a London office shared with Spike Milligan.

"The Government has been concealing evidence and has put a lid on it."

"Do you know in America you can insure yourself against being abducted and they've had a claim already?" says the comic, whose third novel is entitled, *UFOs Are Coming Wednesday*.

He avoids the press if he can. "I've had a very interesting life and I'm proud of it, but it's a private life," he explains in soft Lancashire tones. "I prefer that what people see is what they see

**By William Sitwell**

on stage and on screen. I'm fairly reclusive and certainly don't want people to know what I eat for breakfast."

A vital ingredient in post-War British comedy, Sykes wrote for Tony Hancock, Frankie Howerd, co-wrote the Goon Show with Milligan and starred with Hattie Jacques in his own comedy series for 20 years. It averaged 20 million viewers and was the longest running show on British television.

**T**O DAY Sykes is not so enthusiastic about the state of British TV and worries about young comedians.

"Television does a lot of damage to people if it's their first experience of show-business. Comedy is a deep psychological science that you have to learn by watching other comics."

"Sadly this form of learning is gone because our theatres are disappearing. They are pulling them down, build-

## Eric Sykes frets over the future of comedy

ing monstrosities that have little to do with theatre and more to do with restaurants and car parking. Theatres used to be our universities before appearing on television. So when we got our break we had an education."

"Today young comics are thrust out there with nothing and I feel sorry for them."

*"They're not given the chance to learn and are put into the front line with a catapult rather than an Armalite rifle."*

Of today's comic talents Rory Bremner is a favourite: "He is absolutely brilliant, as are Victoria Wood and Paul Merton. I like Rowan Atkinson but wish he hadn't done Mr Bean. I think it's dreadful."

"If he walks down the street and gets hit on the head, he over reacts."

"In reality if an Englishman

walks down the street and gets hit, the first thing he does is look around to see if anyone saw it. Then he rubs his head."

Sykes wears glasses with no glass (they are a sophisticated hearing aid) and spends much of his time writing scripts.

But his sight is so poor he can no longer read. So he writes in blocks and has chunks read out to him for revision.

He does not strike one as a recluse, so I grill him about that breakfast. He reveals: "I have three spoonfuls of a kind of bran they give horses. It's a bit like sand."

I am left none the wiser.

# CLOSE ENCOUNTER

## UFO mystery baffles city

NORWICH was today at the centre of a baffling UFO mystery over this spectacular picture which has gripped the nation.

The silent, biscuit-shaped object was captured by stunned Glen Webster on his camcorder in the sky above Mile Cross.

Experts are now examining the tape in a bid to discover exactly what 32-year-old Glen saw from his window.

The unemployed painter and decorator today revealed reading the Evening News prompted him to tell of his sighting.

The amazing film has surfaced just days after we told how motorist Nick Colman was tracked by a mysterious light near Avlsham.

The sightings have reopened the UFO debate and left everyone wondering if there really is something out there.

Glen scrambled across his room to grab his camcorder and capture the mystery object, zig-zagging above his home.

He ran outside to get a better shot before it headed off towards Great Yarmouth. But he did not even look at it again until he had filmed bonfire night celebrations.

Father-of-two Glen, of Appleyard Crescent, said: "It hadn't been for the stories in the Evening News, I wouldn't have had the confidence to tell anyone about it."

"I had got the camcorder for bonfire night and it was only when I was showing the tape to my parents that they convinced me to tell someone," he said.

"When I zoomed in on the shape I couldn't believe it. I moved forward and tripped over my hi-fi. It made no sound and I gasped when I saw it shoot towards the moon."

"I have always been a bit sceptical about this type of

thing but this was simply amazing."

Wife Lesley said: "We have had loads of UFO investigators around here since it happened."

The specialist smaller background objects which could also be UFOs.

The minute-long black object in three segments passing across the yellow axe-head shape. It was rapidly moving rapidly to the right."

by GREG MILAM and STEVE SILK

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# UFO UPDATE

with Jon Peake

AH-HA! It appears several of you did see those weird lights in Wigan a couple of weeks ago.

What were they? Who knows?

It seems that there were about four or five lights, some were red and some were white. They were very small and moving back and forth in the same area of the sky for about an hour.

A woman and her husband from Poolstock saw the objects.

Said the woman: "There were a load of us standing outside looking at them in the sky. They weren't aircraft and they weren't lasers. They looked more like stars really - they were small but moving about although they stopped moving now and again. There was no noise and they kept darting back and forth."

She went on: "I had always been sceptical about UFOs before I saw those strange objects. Now I don't know what to believe."

Can anyone offer an explanation as to what they were. Were they some kind of laser being used as a promotion exercise?

Another lady wrote in to my good self this week. She too saw something odd.

The woman from Higher Ince says she has seen things in the sky five times in two weeks. One night she saw two sets of unidentified objects in the sky.

Have you seen anything strange in the skies above Wigan? Contact Jon Peake on 228000.

In the next UFO update - a Kitt Green man tells of the night he was abducted by aliens.

**WIGAN REPORTER (incorp)**  
30 NOV 95

**ASHTON REPORTER)**

## 'UFO' sightings are blamed on helicopter

STRANGE swirling lights seen in the sky over Bath had local people puzzled at the weekend.

But today the phenomenon that provoked fears of a UFO presence was revealed.

The most likely explanation is that the strange sight was a helicopter providing special transport for the Children in Need appeal.

People in Oldfield Park, Bear Flat and Perrymead spotted the lights from 9pm on Friday to 3am Saturday.

Brenda Evans, of Chantry Mead Road, saw the lights around 12.45am and described them as like a lit torch making patterns on a ceiling.

She said: "There were revolving lights as big as a football field."

**THE BATH CHRONICLE**  
27 NOV 95

## Suspicious sightings recorded by UFO expert

A SPATE of suspicious sightings have been reported in Essex in the last month, according to Sheridan Lane, an investigator with a UFO magazine.

Mrs Lane, from Boxted, works for the UK-based UFO Studies and is hoping to set up a Colchester branch to cover these and future incidents.

She has received eight reports from ten sources in November, which state that across the region, witnesses have seen numerous unidentified flying objects.

Mrs Lane also believes that "something very strange is going on in Clacton. There have been a lot of sightings."

Anyone with information concerning UFOs should contact Roy Lake at UFO Studies, on 0181 270 9919. People interested in joining a Colchester branch of UFO Magazine should also contact Mr Lake.

**EAST ANGLIAN**  
30 NOV 95

**DAILY TIMES**

## UFO hunt on

**CARLISLE:** UFO investigators are hunting for witnesses to bright light seen speeding over Warwick Road towards the Stanwix area on Sunday evening, leaving a broad band of yellow light behind it.

It was spotted by a Carlisle man who says it was as big as an aircraft. How to be a witness.

**WEST CUMBRIAN**  
29 NOV 95

**EVENING NEWS & STAR**

## Mysteries in sky help swell ranks of UFO spotters

**By KATIE WATSON-SMYTH**  
The Birmingham Post

It was a large black object with nine arms and globes of pale lights at the end and it hung in the sky over Smethwick for several seconds before disappearing.

Sightings of apparent unidentified flying objects such as that by one Birmingham man have become so common around the region that the city's UFO watchers have been forced to expand their operations.

Birmingham UFO Society organisers Rob and Marilyn Aldworth said they used to hold meetings in their Erdington home but now so many people are interested that they have had to find new premises.

They have also started a bi-monthly newsletter reporting sightings.

Mrs Aldworth, who herself has only had one sighting in Scotland, said: "There is much more awareness of it nowadays and people are more willing to come forward and describe what they have seen."

"Nobody knows where they are coming from but so many of the descriptions are consistent and fit a pattern so we are trying to investigate them all."

The current obsession with UFOs caused many people in Moseley and Balsall Heath to call *The Birmingham Post* after strange lights were seen in the sky last week. Police could not

However, it turned out to be a Sky Tracker laser being used as part of a show during a dinner at the Forte Crest Hotel, Smallbrook Queensway, for the Birmingham premiere of the latest James Bond film *GoldenEye*.

But Mrs Aldworth is not to be deterred.

"No-one can say for sure what it is but I am sure that the Government has a lot more information on the subject."

"Many people believe that they come for reproduction purposes and I think that perhaps they need energy because they are often spotted near pylons or around airports," she said.

The society says there has been 14 recorded sightings in the Midlands this year and the common factor is that they all move extremely fast and make no noise.

Mrs Aldworth has compiled a list of the sightings which have included silver balls seen floating in the sky and rotating lights.

She even had a call from three policemen who saw a glowing white object turn green and sink down behind some houses.

A helicopter was even sent out the following day to see if there was any evidence on the ground.

And she claims that several people contacted the society after a geoball was seen hovering over Tally Ho police club in Easton a few months

**BIRMINGHAM POST**  
27 NOV 95

# Experts baffled by UFO sightings

MORE tales of the unexplained are doing the rounds in Waltham Forest.

Following reports of ghostly goings-on at The Village pub come claims of UFO sightings.

Painter and decorator Tony Golbourne, of Wigton Road, Walthamstow, says he saw a large orange object hovering in the sky when he looked out of his bedroom window in the middle of last Monday night.

Said Tony: "It looked bigger than a dinner plate if you held it up against the window, I have never seen anything like it."

He said it could not have been the moon as there was a new moon in the sky last week.

"People tend to think you're pulling their leg or you're a raving nutcase if you tell them these things but in all my life I have never seen anything like what I saw the other night."

## WALTHAMSTOW GUARDIAN

02 NOV 95

# Fantastic lights prove frightening sight for driver

STRANGE tales of unidentified objects continue to come flying into the Evening News after our front-page story on Saturday.

Last week we told how motorist Nick Colman was tracked by a mysterious light on a road near Aylsham last Friday.

The same night, a motorist called Great Yarmouth police after seeing a spinning disc in the sky over Freethorpe.

And then on Saturday Glenn

**MYSTERY OBJECT:**  
the flying disc filmed  
by Glenn Webster



Webster from Mile Cross showed his amazing film of a weird biscuit-shaped object near his house, recorded on Friday night.

His minute of camcorder footage has been sent off to UFO experts

who admit to being baffled by the zig-zagging, quick-moving flying disc.

Now security engineer James Mason, 21, of Angel Road, has described how he was driving back from King's Lynn at about 4.50pm on the previous Friday when a blue light appeared in his rear view mirror as he passed through Bawdeswell, near Dereham.

Thinking it was a police car, he pulled over and got out of his car,

only to discover the light had gone.

"Then my car lights went off and on again. I looked up and realised this light had gone overhead and was about 200 yards in front of me and about 100ft in the air."

"It wasn't flashing it was spinning, it looked like a Catherine Wheel."

Mr Mason added: "I was so freaked out I turned back and came back on a different road and then went down to Bethel Street Police Station to report it."

## EASTERN EVENING NEWS

13 NOV 95

BRITAIN'S top UFO investigator has revealed how an amazing experience with a giant spaceship changed his life forever.

Tony Dodd's close encounter of the weird kind came as he answered a routine call over a disturbance in a North Yorkshire village. "We drove round a bend and suddenly there was a massive spaceship hovering above the road," said the 60-year-old ex-police sergeant. "It was spectacular. Our mouths just dropped open in amazement, hit the brakes and skidded to a halt."

"The craft was about 100ft off the ground, very bright with flashing lights rotating around what looked like portholes."

"It was glowing white hot but it was completely silent. It passed overhead and has completely mesmerised. We were completely lost in space. He claims to have seen dozens of flying saucers and tracked down scores of Britons who have been abducted by their occupants since that first sighting at Cononley, near Skipton, in 1978.

A director of investigations for the UFO agent, Quark Inter-

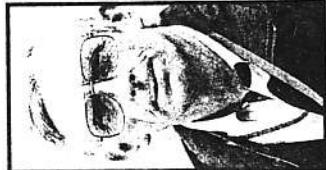
national, has lobbied governments all over the world

going on. It's immoral that the Government

and military are keeping everything secret."

And Tony, whose quest so far has cost him £30,000, adds: "People can think what they like. Many will think I've completely lost my mind - but aliens do exist!"

If YOU have had a close encounter with a UFO, contact Tony on 01756 752216.



**UFO HUNT: Tony Dodd**

## I WAS SNATCHED FOR ALIEN SEX'

ALIENS are using men and women to breed a new race of ETs and earthlings to take over the world, according to a shock new report. And the first child of such a close encounter may now be 38 years old and living on a flying saucer! UFO investigators reckon that Brazilian farmer Antonio Braga was the first man to have sex with a female

alien, Antonio, then 23,

describes in the report

how he was abducted by

four creatures who threw

him into a flying saucer.

There he was stripped

and scrubbed down with

perfumed sponges.

Then a naked female

he had ever seen

appeared and seduced

him. The strangest thing

about her was that her

armpit and pubic hair

was bright red.

# Invasion of UFOs?

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? What is this Unidentified Flying Object?

Mark O'Brien, a fifth-form pupil at St Bede's, Manchester, did wonder a bit when he saw this image on his bedroom wall at his Wilmslow home.

So he grabbed his Vivitar 35 camera, aimed at the wall and pressed the button.

But the curious image looking just like a UFO was, in fact, a reflection of a CD lying on a table. For a moment, it just might have been a Martian spaceship flashing across the Cheshire sky.

## THE UNIVERSE

12 NOV 95

# Tales of UFOs come flying in

STRANGE tales of unidentified objects continue to come flying into the Evening News after our front page story on Saturday. Security engineer James Mason, 21, called us with a scary tale from "UFO Friday".

## EASTERN EVENING NEWS

13 NOV 95

# Heavens above, we're not crackpots says UFO man

by GREG MILAM

DOZENS of UFO-spotters are flocking to join a new group investigating the mysterious goings-on in the Norfolk skies. Experts in Norwich say there have been more than 40 reported sightings of strange objects in the region's skies since January.

The Norfolk UFO Society is investigating them all. Society chairman Alex Clark says its membership has increased to 80 in the past few months as more people accept the idea of the unexplained.

The society has launched a probe into two reported sightings at Freethorpe and Aylsham last week. Alex, a student from Hevingham, said: "We had about 20 members three or four months ago but since then a lot of people have become involved. We have gone from a very amateurish group to a proper society."

"We investigate all reports of sightings. In eight out of 10 sightings we find a rational answer. That could be an aeroplane, military base, boat or helicopter."

"But we have also had stars, comets, meteorites and even satellites. We interview the witness and contact those places where it could have come from."

"We hope our members are sceptical. If there is no explanation, then we call it a UFO — it is unidentified. We don't jump to conclusions."

Alex, 19, pointed out: "We

are not crackpots..."

Society members include a former police chief inspector, a military intelligence officer and a pilot and they range in age from 14 to 90.

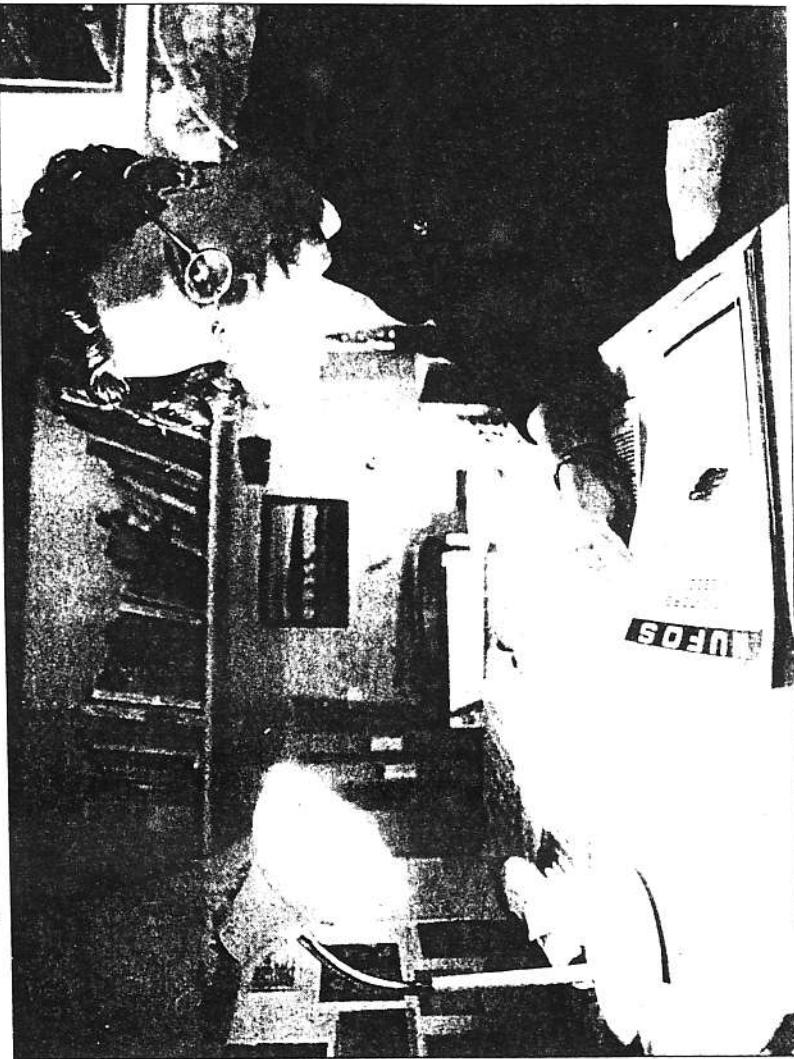


Photo PAUL HEWITT

## UFO SIGHTINGS:

Alex Clark, chairman of Norfolk UFO Society, whose membership has increased recently. The society has just launched a probe into two reported UFO sightings.

EASTERN EVENING NEWS  
11 NOV 95

# Capital maybe hotspot for aliens

A SERIES of mysterious sightings over Edinburgh recently are being investigated by Scotland's expert of the unexplained.

And UFO investigator Ron Halliday believes Lothian could be one of Scotland's hot spots for aliens.

## Bizarre

The four latest sightings involve mysterious lights spotted over the Capital in the past few weeks.

And they are just the most recent in a long list of bizarre incidents which have left locals baffled.

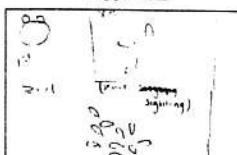
Today Ron Halliday, chairman of Scottish Earth Mystery Research, said: "It is clear to me Edinburgh is the centre of UFO activity in Scotland."

Ron Halliday can be contacted on 01786 832490.

EDINBURGH EVENING NEWS  
01 NOV 95

## SOMETHING OUT THERE?

A Stratford man and his two daughters, aged 14 and 15, saw not one but ten UFOs while stargazing. Here's the daughter's account of what happened.



Above: the UFOs seen by the Millard family

Pauline Millard, one of the two daughters who witnessed this strange phenomena says: "Kelly, dad and I were outside looking at the stars. A strange gold light with two red dots caught Kelly's eyes. I started saying it was a UFO. Then my dad looked at it through the binoculars and said 'It looks like a moving planet!' I tried to grab the binoculars but the gold/red lights split into three smaller orange/yellow lights which zoomed across the sky at a great speed, zig-zagging in and out of one another and disappeared. We all discussed what had happened and again began to look at the stars. About two minutes later, around 10 more of the orange/yellow lights flew over just as the ones before and disappeared in the same place."

CITY OF LONDON RECORDER  
10 NOV 95

# UFO event is out-er space

STUNNED organisers of Tyneside's first UFO convention had to turn people away because of overcrowding.

UFO fanatics descended on the convention and organisers turned 130 people away from the event in Ellison Building, Newcastle.

The Chronicle revealed how a rise in reported UFO and alien sightings in the region prompted BUFORA (British UFO Research Association) to stage the lecture.



## ● UFO SUCCESS

- Gloria Dixon  
North East Co-ordinator Gloria Dixon said: "We didn't realise the enormous interest up here."

The next event is on January 27.

## NEWCASTLE UPON

02 NOV 95

## TYNE EVENING CHRONICLE

## Star goes star-gazing

LIAM Tyson, guitarist with Cast, has claimed he has seen UFOs in the sky. Tyson is a strong believer in aliens from outer space. He said: "We were watching this star at about 2am when another one came out of it - they were spinning around each other."

## IPSWICH EVENING STAR

02 NOV 95

## Trendspotter

ALIENS have landed in Bonnybridge, if you believe concerned residents who have reported over 2,000 UFO sightings over the last three years. Everything from floating cigar shaped objects to flashing lights have been witnessed in the Scottish sky and the mystery has attracted reporters and scientists from all over the world.

Now, Michael Hutchinson of the UK Skeptics Society, and Simon Hoggart, *Guardian* columnist, have come together to debunk the myths. As co-authors of *Bizarre Beliefs* published this week, they offer alternative rational explanations to UFOs and a whole heap of other so-called paranormal phenomena. In their drive to uncover "hokum and fraud", nothing is safe, from tarot reading to hypnotism, the Bermuda Triangle to the Curse of Tutankhamun.

UFOs get short shrift. "At Bonnybridge, isn't it strange that we have loads of sightings yet none of them tally?" asks Hutchinson. "Most witnesses are well intentioned but misguided, he asserts. "If you really suspect that a flying saucer is about to land in your back yard, you're

hardly in the best mood for calmly noting exactly what is going on."

The gullibility of the human mind is a key factor in perpetuating belief in paranormal events. The authors make the point that eye witness



Alien invaders, Thirties style

reports of little green men only started flooding in after the rise of the black and white gothic horror movie. The first flying saucer was seen in 1947. Our own Loch Ness Monster did not

# Did you see a UFO?

A UFO which was seen over Crewe on bonfire night was an airship, according to Crewe police. But people who saw the object floating across Frank Webb Avenue are still puzzled about one thing - what were the strange blue and red lights which were seen shooting out of either end?

Several people saw the glowing "balls" detach themselves from the larger, oval object and fly off. The object appeared over Crewe at 7.55pm on Sunday and then moved off towards Alsager.

UFO enthusiasts in the area are still interested in the sighting, and anyone with any information can contact them through the *Crewe Guardian* on 257253.

REWE & NANTWICH GUARDIAN  
02 NOV 95

## Mystery as UFOs land in Fargate

FLYING saucers have landed in Fargate, Sheffield! Those mysterious metal structures have turned out to be lamp standards.

And the lights look strangely like UFOs.

Don't look now but they are soon to start breeding. The city council likes them so much they will also be installed in the High Street.

THE SCOTSMAN  
08 NOV 95

really begin to create waves of interest until 1933 and no-one was officially abducted by aliens until the Sixties.

Hoaxers play on this gullibility and have long enjoyed manufacturing mysteries. Doctored photographs of UFOs were practically a cottage industry 20 years ago and more recently, crop circles have held the nation in thrall. Despite televised confessions by several of the more prolific hoaxers, many people still believe that crop circles are made by aliens from outer space. "Even intelligent people adore mysteries", explains Hutchinson.

So what's the harm? Hutchinson is adamant that the book is not just for spoilsports: "Holding information back from people is always wrong. I don't really care what people believe but they need to be able to make up their own minds taking into account all the evidence."

● *Bizarre Beliefs* by Simon Hoggart and Michael Hutchinson, published by Richard Coven Books, priced £20 paperback £12.

Thea Jourdan

DONCASTER STAR  
02 NOV 95

**A young music teacher from Birches Head is organising the first major UFO conference in the city for 20 years**

# Unlikely passion is out of this world

**I**T WOULD be a lucky alien who closely encountered Tracie Austin.

Tracie has a winning smile, a vivacious personality and an unshakable belief in the existence of extra-terrestrial.

And should the inter-galactic traveller wish to acquire a useful earthy skill, she is also an accomplished musician and qualified teacher of the piano.

Tracie Austin is a UFO enthusiast, though you wouldn't think it to look at her. Slim, blonde and attractive, she scarcely gives the impression of someone obsessed with flying saucers and strange lights in the night sky.

Yet since she saw an unidentified flying object over London seven years ago, 30-year-old Tracie has developed a passionate interest in the mysterious visions that many of us tend to dismiss as the stuff of bad sci-fi movies.

Tracie is a believer — so much so that next year she is organising N o r t h Staffordshire's first major UFO conference in 20 years.

Brought up in Birches Head, Tracie attended Carr-Gantside school before taking O and A levels at the Cauldron College and studying piano at the Guildhall School of Music in Drama in London.

It was as a student at the Guildhall that she and her boyfriend Karl Hemmings — they now run the Rock and Pop Music School in Stockport — saw a UFO in broad daylight over the nation's capital.

"We were at the Barbican Centre, just chatting, and when we looked out of the window we both saw this very, very unusual

**Slim, blonde and attractive, she scarcely gives the impression of someone obsessed with flying saucers**

alien craft overhead. It was conical in shape, like a dunce's cap, it was floating and rotating and moving very slowly across the sky, emitting a glow.

"I couldn't believe it. I'd never really thought about them before, and I was simply amazed. We watched it until it disappeared, and Karl said it must be something from another planet, or another dimension."

"As both Karl and I had seen it, I knew we couldn't have imagined it. And in any case, the next day the London Evening Standard reported that loads and loads of other people had seen it too."

"That absolutely convinced me. After that there was no doubt in my mind that UFOs exist. We talked to our friends about it and some said they'd seen UFOs themselves. Even an aunt of mine said she'd seen one."

The young musician then began reading up on other UFO sightings and studying published material on the possibility that beings from other worlds regularly enter our terrestrial air space.

She read dozens of books and magazines, studied videos and attended conferences addressed by recognised authorities on the subject. "The more I studied the phenomenon, the more convinced I became that there is intelligent life out there," she told me.

But does she really believe that there are little green men skimming overhead in flying saucers?

She retorts that — incredibly — many people claim to have been abducted by aliens, and their accounts contradict the popular conception of the little green men. They tend to be hideously grey men. "The evidence suggests the typical alien being



**Tracie Austin**

is small and greyish white in colour and about the size of a 10-year-old boy. They are very, very thin, with black elliptical eyes which wrap around the side of the head.

"There is a small indent for a nose and a slit for a mouth, according to people who claim to have seen them. There are reports that the 'greys' carry out genetic experiments on the humans they abduct, taking eggs from women and sperm samples from men. Some claim to have seen the hybrids created by these genetic experiments."

So how would Tracie herself feel if she had a close encounter of the third kind?

"UFO researchers say there are several types of alien beings visiting our planet. Some are hostile and some are friendly."

"The greys are said to be friendly and if I met one I suppose I'd be half scared and half fascinated. My heart would race a bit — like the time I saw the ghost of a headless woman at the Guildhall school."

At Tracie's conference at the City Museum in Hanley next June, the speakers will include Graham Birdsall, editor of *UFO Magazine*, and Tony Dodd, an ex-policeman who is director of

Quest International and a world authority on UFOs.

Although orthodox science accepts that the balance of probability is that intelligent life does exist elsewhere in the universe, Tracie admits that some sceptics will find her beliefs eccentric. "Of course some people will think I'm crackers," she told me. "But I would just ask them to stop and think and listen to the evidence."

She says that people who close their minds to the subject are "living in boxes".

"All I would say is: if you don't want to come out of your box, at least lift the lid and take a peek outside. You might find something very interesting out there."

**ALAN COOKMAN**

## STRANGE BUT TRUE? ITV FRIDAY

In August 1978, Captain Lou Cockerill was piloting a routine holiday flight from Gatwick to Malta. What he saw as he flew over Germany still haunts him today.

Cockerill and first officer Paul Coomber spotted a white sphere flying high above them. "It was brilliantly bright," he recalls. "Two identical but smaller objects dropped from it and shot off at speed in opposite directions."

Cockerill quickly radioed Rhine Air Traffic Control. They claimed they'd seen nothing on radar but we later learned that

identical objects had been spotted over Malta and Italy.

Cockerill describes his close encounter in this week's *Strange But True?*, which reports on the staggering number of UFO sightings made by pilots.

Since 1947, 3000 UFO sightings have been reported by pilots worldwide. But Jenny Randles, one of Britain's leading UFO researchers, believes the figure is higher. "Only one in 10 pilots make a report," she says.

The programme reveals how British officials have tried to silence airline crews. Pilot Graham Shepherd tells how a large metallic disc

MICHAEL ASPEL moves us on from deep sea probes to deep space mysteries in the final edition of *Strange But True?* (Friday, 8.30pm, ITV) as he sifts evidence of visits to this planet by alien craft.

The programme concentrates on UFO sightings by perhaps the most credible class of witness — professional pilots.

The first half provides a potted history of UFO-spotting and includes interviews with serving airline pilots, some of whom say they were put under pressure at the time of sightings not to report what they saw.

The second half recreates the Kaikoura sightings in New Zealand, at an air force base where warrant officer Ian Uffindell noticed what he thought was a freighter hovering above the airfield and seemingly not intending to land.

The control room at Wellington was equally baffled by a second craft on the radar.

Over several days, the UFOs were spotted by pilots and on radar. A local TV news crew hitched a ride on a plane hoping to strike lucky — and did so.

The plane was allegedly pursued by a UFO, and the footage can be seen on the programme.

## BICESTER ADVERTISEE 09 NOV 95

flew beneath him near Preston, Lancashire, in 1967. He was told by his senior captain to keep quiet. He said quite clearly it would compromise our careers," he says.

"I am sure officials keep sightings quiet because they still have no idea what UFOs are," says Jenny Randles. "It's a cover-up of their own ignorance."

She claims that 95 per cent of sightings

can be rationally explained. Cockerill's spheres, however, fall in the other five per cent. "For 17 years, I've wondered what I saw that night," says Cockerill, now 65. "I always used to pooh-pooh UFOs but not now. On starry nights, I look up and wonder who or what really is out there."

*Words: Andrew McKenna  
Photographs: Image Bank,  
M&Y News Agency*



## WHAT'S ON TV 04 NOV 95

## NUNEATON EVENING TELEGRAPH 07 NOV 95

COULD THERE BE UFO's flying over Atherstone? When town councillor Jock Dixon went out to buy his fish and chips one evening, he was surprised to see a row of people standing outside the shop in Lister Road, and staring up at the sky. "They were looking at a glowing light," he said. "It shot off in one direction and then back again before moving off." Are we being visited by aliens or is there a simple explanation? If you have the answer, please let your Grassroots correspondent know.

MILITARY chiefs say that suspected UFOs reported in the Scarborough and Whitby area were believed to be jet planes on manoeuvres.

Dozens of people contacted the Evening News after spotting mysterious lights in the night sky.

But a spokesman at RAF Staxton Wold says that there were a lot of military aircraft in the air on Tuesday 10 October - the night when many people

## Witnesses scorn jets theory

thought they saw something from the unknown.

The spokesman said that the lights could have been from jet fighters refuelling in mid-air.

However, Andrew Crimiss, 33, of Colescliffe Road, Scarborough, witnessed the lights and says the explanation does not add up.

He said: "If they were planes refuelling then they must have been travelling sideways to do it.

"It was a perfect night to see

what I and my daughter saw.

"After seeing the lights we saw three civilian aircraft and a military plane but we saw their lights clearly whereas the objects around the lights could not be made out."

Mr Crimiss added: "Whatever the lights were, they did not make any noise."

"Plus, I have seen a video of planes refuelling in mid-air and the lights that Tuesday were not in the same configuration. The

lights were flying low at the same level for a long time and heading from land out to sea. I think the explanation is rubbish."

Mr Crimiss saw the lights above Scalby but others saw them above Sleights, near Whitby, Ravenscar, Burniston and several days later over Malton and Norton.

The spokesman for RAF Staxton Wold said he confirmed the air activity that night with an RAF radar station in Norfolk which said that American F15 fighters were on exercise in the area.

### SCARBOROUGH EVENING NEWS & MERCURY

02 NOV 95

## Series of talks on weird science

**FORGET** the X-Files — UFOs, Mars, and diseases from outer space will soon be up for debate in Willesden.

A group of alternative thinkers — some call them scientists — is arriving in the next few weeks to take part in a startling series of free talks on weird earthly goings-on and spaced-out happenings, in a programme titled *At The Edge Of Science*.

### Packed

Organisers have been overwhelmed by interest in the seminars and are expecting packed houses for each night.

Anne Mullane, events coordinator, said the information hotline is frantic with inquiries from people keen to hear more about strange phenomena.

The demand has encouraged her to add extra speakers to the original line-up and she is considering organising a follow-up

BY KAMALA HAYMAN

next year.

"We've had so much interest we thought we'd really go for it."

She said specialist organisations such as The Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena are thrilled by the event and have been asking how many people they can bring.

### Inexplicable

So for those keen on explanations about the inexplicable the following times should be noted:

**November 16:** Prof Chandra Wickramasinghe will reveal how diseases are being carried to Earth by comets from outer space.

**November 23:** Lynne Picknett and Clive Prince will discuss their belief that the Turin Shroud shows a primitive photographic

image of Leonardo Da Vinci's face.

**November 27:** Jenny Randles, author and researcher with 30 years' experience, will debate UFOs. Her book *Strange But True* is mentioned in a television series currently showing on Carlton.

**November 30:** David Percy expounds his theory that stones seen on Mars resemble the large standing stones of Avebury. His book *Two Thirds* has photographic evidence from NASA which he claims supports his theory.

**December 5:** Rupert Sheldrake summarises seven experiments which could change the world. They include investigations into the uncanny powers of animals.

He will also show how amateurs can conduct their own research for less than £20.

● All talks are free and begin at 8.30pm at Willesden Green Library Centre.

### PADDINGTON TIMES

09 NOV 95

THE VERY first meeting of the Wigan Area Society for Paranormal Study and Investigation (WasPsi) at The Orwell was a resounding success.

More than 100 people showed up for the first monthly meeting, held on Monday, October 30.

Unfortunately, I could not attend, but my folks were there and said it was an enjoyable evening.

Young and old alike gathered to hear UFO buff David Cayton's talk on aerial phenomena and some told stories of their own.

The next meeting will be on November 27 and is about ghosts. More details nearer the date.

On a different note, an Ashton man telephoned me - having seen what he can only describe as being a U.F.O.

And what he saw on that night, around a month ago, he says has changed his life.

The man, who lives near Junction 25 of the M6, says he was stood at his back door when he spotted something in the sky. It wasn't a plane and it wasn't a helicopter, it appeared to be oval in shape and there was a bright light coming from it.

He was transfixed by the object in the sky and watched it as it descended, without a sound, slowly and at an angle behind the houses

## UFO UPDATE

with Jon Peake

blocking his view.

The man said: "Since then I have been eager to read about other sightings and have taken out six books from the library on U.F.O.s.

"I had never taken any interest before that night but it is almost as if it has become an obsession now. It has changed my life.

"There must be something else out there, the universe is such a massive place."

Have you seen a U.F.O. in the Wigan area? Do you want to talk about it? Then contact Jon Peake, Tel: 228000.

YORKSHIRE EVENING PRESS (YORK)  
02 NOV 95

REPORTS of UFOs hovering above York have led to calls from baffled readers who also claim to have witnessed them.

The Yorkshire Evening Press has been inundated with calls following Tuesday's report that bright "flying saucer-shaped" objects had been seen in the York area.

Paul Mortimer, 32, of Burton Stone Lane, York, saw a number of unexplained shining lights as he drove from Selby to York at about 4.50pm last Friday.

"I saw one very bright light quite high in the sky as I drove towards Escrick," said Mr Mortimer, a self-employed signwriter. "A second later it had dropped vertically to more or less the height of the tree-line. Then I lost sight of it.

"Further towards Escrick, I saw a light in the shape of an upturned flying saucer, but at a slight tilt. It seemed to glow. It began to flicker and, as it did, two smaller lights emerged from either side. Then they all vanished.

"People thought I was making it up until it was reported in the Press."

Three "flickering" lights were spotted above the A19 between 4.30pm and 5pm the same afternoon by Margaret Batty, of Barby, Selby, and her daughter Ruth, of York, who works at Selby District Council's housing department.

"We were looking east when we both saw these lights," said Margaret. "They were there one minute and gone the next."

Caroline Greaves, 26, of Leeman Road, along with a friend and her three children, saw three lights in the direction of Clifton at about 5.15pm last Friday.

"They were brighter than fluorescent lights," she said. "There was a big one, a medium one and a small one, like a mother duck and her ducklings."

"We saw them coming towards us for about three minutes and then they were stationary for another four minutes. There was no noise."

"I wasn't frightened, I was very calm about it. I have an open mind on the subject of UFOs, but I now believe that something is going to happen - and happen soon."

### WIGAN REPORTER

09 NOV 95

